

**SOCIAL JUSTICE IN TOLSTOY'S *ANNA KARENINA* NOVEL
(1878): MARXISM PERSPECTIVE**



**This Research Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
Getting Bachelor Degree of Education in English Education**

by:

RISKA PUTRI WIDYAWATI

A320140232

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH EDUCATION
SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH SURAKARTA**

2018

APPROVAL

SOCIAL JUSTICE IN TOLSTOY'S *ANNA KARENINA* NOVEL (1878) :

MARXISM PERSPECTIVE

PUBLICATION ARTICLE

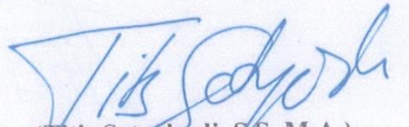
by:

RISKA PUTRI WIDYAWATI

A 320140232

Research paper has been approved to be examined by

The Consultant



(Titis Setyobudi, S.S, M.A.)

NIDN. 0617047701

ACCEPTANCE

**SOCIAL JUSTICE IN TOLSTOY'S ANNA KARENINA NOVEL (1878):
MARXISM PERSPECTIVE**

PUBLICATION ARTICLE

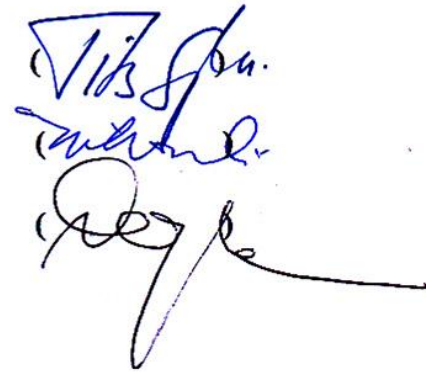
By :

**RISKA PUTRI WIDYAWATI
A320140232**

**Accepted and approved by the Board of Examiners
School of Teacher Training and Education
Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta
In October 2018**

Team of Examiners :

1. Titis Setyabudi, S.S., M.A.
(Head of Examiner)
2. Dr. M. Toyyibi, M.S.
(Member One of Examiner)
3. Dr. Phil. Dewi Candraningrum, S.Pd., M.Ed.
(Member Two of Examiner)



Dean,



**Prof. Dr. Hafan Dioko Pravitno, M.Hum
NIP. 1965 04 28 1993 03 10**

TESTIMONY

Here, the writer testifies that in this publication article there is no plagiarism. The research that has been made is to complete bachelor degree in a university and as long as the writer knows that there is no work or opinion which has been published or composed by the others, except those in which the writing are referred in manuscript and mentioned in bibliography. Therefore, if it is proved that there are some untrue statements here, the writer will be fully responsible.

Surakarta, 28th of September 2018

The Writer



Riska Putri Widyawati

A320140232

SOCIAL JUSTICE IN TOLSTOY'S *ANNA KARENINA* NOVEL (1878): MARXIST PERSPECTIVE

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan: untuk menemukan keadilan sosial pada tokoh-tokoh dalam novel *Anna Karenina* serta menemukan alasan yang kuat tentang keadilan sosial. Penulis menggunakan penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Penelitian ini dianalisis menggunakan teori Marxist dari Karl Marx. Analisis tersebut digunakan untuk mendeskripsikan serta menganalisis keadilan sosial pada tokoh-tokoh dalam novel. Penelitian ini terdapat dua data yang digunakan untuk meneliti. Pertama, novel *Anna Karenina* karya Leo Tolstoy sebagai data utama, kemudian data pendukung dari buku, jurnal, artikel, internet dan lain-lain. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan 3 indikator dari keadilan sosial, yaitu: Bagaimana keadilan sosial terjadi, faktor-faktor dari keadilan sosial, dan efek dari keadilan sosial terhadap tokoh-tokoh dalam novel. Kisah dari novel *Anna Karenina* digambarkan oleh penulis sesuai dengan keadaan lingkungan sosial di Rusia pada abad ke-19.

Kata kunci: Keadilan Sosial, *Anna Karenina*, Leo Tolstoy, Karl Marx dan Teori Marxist.

Abstract

The research aims at: finding the social justice on the characters of *Anna Karenina* novel and finding purposes the social justice such as well as finding a compelling reason about social justice in the novel. The researcher is used the descriptive qualitative. This research is used Marxist theory by Karl Marx. The analysis is used to describe and analyze social justice on the characters in the novel. There are two research data used to analyze. First, the primary data source of the research is *Anna Karenina* novel (1878). Then, the secondary data sources are taken from book, journal, and article from in internet. The result is showed three indicators from social justice, such as: How the social justice occur, the factors of the social justice, and the effects of the social justice toward the characters in the novel. The story of the novel *Anna Karenina* is described by the author in accordance with the state of the social environment in Russia in nineteenth century.

Key word: Social Justice, *Anna Karenina*, Leo Tolstoy, Karl Marx, and Marxist Theory.

1. INTRODUCTION

Social theory can be defined as the study of scientific ways of thinking about social life. It encompasses ideas about how societies change and develop, about methods of explaining social behavior, about power and social structure, class, gender and ethnicity, modernity and civilization, revolution and utopias, and numerous other concepts and problems in social life. Justice is the first virtue of social institutions, as truth is of systems of thought. John Rawls, (1971) stated that however theory are elegant and economical must be rejected or revised if it is untrue likewise laws and institutions no matter how efficient and well-arranged must be reformed or abolished if they are unjust.

Social justice is social equality between individual and society to get a freedom in life. The reason of choosing the subject because social justice is an important issue in this story, the most of characters of Anna Karenina's novel are struggling to get a freedom in life, especially in character of Anna. The reality of story, when a woman plays an affair with someone to get a true love and freedom. Basic assumption related to the subject that the author describe about social justice at that time. Tolstoy as an author really unnerved to a woman who was depressed and willing to give everything for the sake of love. The author combines two people in romantic of love, but they mixed up with sexual acts outside of marriage and ended tragically. The author is represented as a Levin which is one of the characters in the novel. The relationship of Levin and Kitty is a reflection of his relationship with his wife in reality.

The story of Count Leo Nikolaevich Tolstoy born in a noble family in 1828. Tolstoy's youth was spent among the world of the upper-class gentry during the last decades of serfdom in Russia. Throughout his life, Tolstoy felt torn between his own conflict attitudes regarding the future of Russia and those of his noble class. Tolstoy was in his early thirties he had discarded most of the trappings of gentry's life and was spending much of his time to work. Tolstoy is being the minor characters called Levin in Anna Karenina novel. The author also became concerned about other pressing social issue of his period. In 1872 Tolstoy witnessed a tragic cast in the railroad. A woman, Anna who depressed because of

envy and jealousy towards her love. Anna rushed down to the track and threw herself under a train. Tolstoy hearing of the incident. Tolstoy had never known the woman, but her tragic suicide inspired the story of Anna Karenina's failed liaison with Vronsky and her subsequent suicide in the novel.

This novel covers into some editions which has different pages, and also this novel ever adapted in a movie. One of the best-seller classic novels by the Russian writer, Leo Tolstoy published in (1828-1910). This novel framing of the various aspects and depths of love emotions, hates, sadness, jealousy, fury, sympathy, happiness and infliction. It can increase the reader's emotion when they are reading it, while feeling the emotion in each characters especially Anna. Tolstoy needs four years to finish this novel since 1873-1877. There are positive and negative readers who have comment about this novel.

There are some readers who give some positive comment toward this Anna Karenina novel. It is showed in the comment by Terry who argues that of the book is about their love and courtship and friendship and pride and shame and jealousy and betrayal and forgiveness and about the instable variety of happiness and unhappiness. But, it's also about mowing the grass and arguing politics and hunting and working as a bureaucrat and raising children and dealing politely with tedious company. To put it more accurately, it's about the way that the human mind or, as Tolstoy sometimes says, the human soul engages each of these experiences and tries to understand itself, the world around it, and the other souls that inhabit that world. This book is not afraid to take up any part of human life because it believes that human beings are infinitely interesting and infinitely worthy of compassion. And, what I found stirring, the book's fearlessness extends to matters of religion. Tolstoy takes his characters seriously enough to acknowledge that they have spiritual lives that are as nuanced and mysterious as their intellectual lives and their romantic lives. I knew to expect this dimension of the book, but I could not have known how encouraging it would be to dwell in it for so long. In the end, this book about life, written by a man who is profoundly in love with life. Reading it makes me want to live. And the other side, the negative

comment also showed by Deborah Cornelious argues that of Vronsky's story is a disappointing adaptation replete with suffocating melodrama that doesn't hold a candle to its inspiration.

The researcher is used Marxist perspective by Karl Mark to analyze. In this novel framing the social life in that period in Russia. In 19 century was told about social, political, and economy. It is related with the story of the novel. So, the researcher is used this theory based on situation at that time.

2. METHOD

In analyzing Anna Karenina novel by Leo Tolstoy, the researcher uses descriptive qualitative research. The object of study is the optimistic life which is reflected in Anna Karenina novel (1878) by Leo Tolstoy. It is analyzed by using Marxist perspective. The type of data that the researcher needs to do the analysis is text. It includes dialogues, narration, quotes, and thoughts of characters in the novel. There are two data sources which are needed to conduct this research. They are primary data sources and secondary data sources. The primary data source of the research is Anna Karenina novel (1878). The secondary data source are taken other referential data which related to the study, such as book, convincing articles in websites, dictionaries, and any other source which can support this study. The researcher uses documentation as the method of collecting the data. The steps of collecting data are as follows: Reading Anna Karenina novel (1878) by Leo Tolstoy repeatedly. Then, browsing the internet to get informations and articles related to the object of the study and reading some books to find out the theories, data, and information which are required. Therefore, classifying the data into categories. The researcher will analyze all of data using Marxist Perspective. Finally, writing the conclusion to get the last result.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Historical Background in Russia of 19th Century.

The researcher will be discuss the social background of Russia in nineteenth century through some points, such as: Language aspect, economic aspect, political aspect, cultural aspect and religion aspect.

3.1.1 Language Aspect

Russia is used a Slavic language of the Indo-European family. But, in this novel Tolstoy is used a French language in Anna Karenina novel, both in the character's dialogue and in the narrative. French was the language of the Russian Court and to be able to move in the highest social circles, a Russian needed to be born into the aristocracy and also needed to be well-educated.

3.1.2 Economic Aspect

During the early 19th century Russia developed trade relationships with other European countries and exported large amounts of grain. But most of the export revenue that flowed into the empire simply lined the pockets of aristocrats and powerful land-owners; it was not used as capital to develop an industrialized economy. Industrial projects and incentives were often proposed – but they were rarely embraced, since they threatened the financial interests of conservative landowners.

3.1.3 Political Aspect

The nineteenth century, Russia was an imperial nation ruled by Tsar Alexander I (1801-1825). Alexander I made several domestic advancements but focused most heavily on foreign affairs, joining the fight against France's invading Napoleon in 1805 and helping to defeat him in 1814. In this era, The society in under pressure empire very ruthless and cruel by Tsar. The people not receive a prosperity especially for laborer.

3.1.4 Cultural Aspect

Russian culture has a long history. Russia claimed a long tradition of dividend in many aspects of the art, especially when it comes to literature, philosophy, classical music, ballet, architecture, painting, cinema, animation and politics, which all had considerable influence on world culture. The country also has a flavorful material culture and a tradition in technology.

3.1.5 Religion Aspect

Religion has always important thing in life. In Russia, religion has been primary component of Russia's life, even during times of oppression. Christianity in Russia according to some estimates, to become the largest religion in the country, with almost 50% of the population identify themselves as Christians. The greatest traditions are Orthodox Russia. There are also the Chatolic and Prostestan churches.

3.2 The Concept of Marxist in *Anna Karenina* Novel

The researcher found some concepts to know about social justice and principles of Marxist by Karl Marx through dialogue and narration, these are:

3.2.1 Dialectical Materialism

Dialectical is the concept of the conflict and the contradiction from the story that needed to reach some certain result. Besides, Materialism is showing the wealth of thing. So, Dialectical Materialism is the concept to show the property or thing used by the characters in the case of conflict of the novel.

Dialectical Materialism in the *Anna Karenina* novel is reflected by a character named Alexis Alexandrovich Karenin (Karenin). Karenin shows the conflict because he is having everything in this novel and high position. He makes the difficult situation to Anna to meet her son. It stated on the dialogue below:

He was not of a jealous disposition. Jealousy in his opinion insulted a wife, and a man should have confidence in his wife. Why he should have confident-that is, a full conviction that his young wife would always love him-he never asked himself; but he felt no distrust, and therefore had confidence, and assured himself that it was right to have it. Now, though his conviction that jealousy is a shameful feeling, and that one ought to have confidence, had not been destroyed, he felt that he was face to face with something illogical and stupid, and he did not know what to do. Karenin was

being confronted with life – with the possibility of his wife's loving somebody else... (Anna Karenina, 1878. P. 139-140)

'What he would say to his wife took clear shape in Karenin's head. Thinking it over, he regretted having to spend his time and powers of mind on inconspicuous domestic affairs; but nevertheless, clearly and definitely, as though it were an official report, the form and sequence of the speech he had to make shaped itself in his mind. 'I must make the following quite clear: First, the importance of public opinion and propriety; secondly, the religious meaning of marriage; thirdly, if necessary, I must refer to the harm that may result to our son; fourthly, allude to her own unhappiness.' (Anna Karenina, 1878. P. 141-142)

The narration and dialogue above show the conflict between Anna and her husband, because Anna did affair with someone else namely Vronsky in Moscow. Karenin is a high position he is a husband, a high official in government, rich and religious. Meanwhile, Vronsky is a soldier in Moscow and a young handsome man. It is a conflict and contradiction because of their forbidden relationship between Anna and Vronsky. In the novel, the society will be change to Karenin's family, especially Anna have been making ashamed her husband.

3.2.2 Historical Materialism

Historical materialism studies about society and history. Especially, focuses on the economic circumstance and material live. In this novel, the historical materialism is describing in characters Karenin, Anna, and Kitty. It showed from the novel below:

Princess Kitty Shcherbatskaya was eighteen, beautiful and this was her first season. Her success in Society was greater than that of her two elder sisters, and greater even than her mother had expected. Not only were nearly all the youths that danced at the Moscow balls in love with Kitty. (Anna Karenina, 1878. P. 42)

Karenin returned from The Ministry with high position, at four o'clock, but, as often happened, he had no time to go up and see his wife. He went straight to his study to receive some

petitioners and sign a few documents brought by his private secretary. At the Karenin's dinners there were usually about three visitors. This time there came an old lady, a cousin Karenins; the Director of a Department, the Director's wife; and a young man who had been recommended to Karenin for a post under him. Karenin entered in evening dress with a white tie and two stars on his coat, as he had to attend an official meeting directly after dinner. Every moment of his life was filled up and apportioned, and in order to find time to perform all the task allotted to each day he observed the strictest regularity. 'Without haste and without rest.' Was his motto. He entered the room, greeted everybody, and quickly sat down, smiling at his wife. (Anna Karenina, 1878. P. 107-108)

The highest Petersburg Society is really all one: all who belong to it know and even visit one another. But this large circle has its subdivisions. Anna Arkadyevna Karenina has friends and close connections in three different set, consisting of his colleagues and subordinates, who in most varied and capricious ways were connected and separated by social conditions... (Anna Karenina, 1878. p. 124)

From the narration above showed that the social life and material life of this novel. It looks from the life of Kitty, Karenin and Anna. In Kitty, she is beautiful, dancing in the ball beautifully, young, and the greater woman than her sister and her mother. In Karenin, he is a husband, has a good manners, rich man and loving her wife. But, he was busy man over time. In Anna, because of her husband position in Petersburg. Anna became a high social woman in there with her appearance. Of course, she has a beautiful face and very charming.

3.2.3 Political Economy

In Marxist, Political Economy means relations between people and classes. It is not about the relationship between commodities, prices, supply and demand. It is about people and the social relationship, about the owners of wealth. In this novel, The Political Economy shows in these evidences:

He rang for his valet, dressed hurriedly, and went out into the porch, having quite forgotten his dream and feeling worried only by the fact that he was late. As he drove up to the Karenins' porch he again glanced at his watch and saw that it was ten minutes to nine. A high narrow brougham with a pair of grey horses stood before the front door. 'She was coming to me', thought Vronsky; 'that would have been better. It is unpleasant for me to enter this house. But no matter! I cannot hide,' he thought; and with the manner, habitual to him since childhood, of one who has nothing to be ashamed of, Vronsky got out of his sledge and went to the door. The door opened and the hall porter with a rug over his arm called to the coachman. Vronsky, though not in the habit of noticing details, noticed the look surprise on the man's face. In the doorway he nearly knocked up against Karenin. The gaslight lit up Karenin's worn, bloodless face beneath the black hat, and his white tie showing from beneath the beaver collar of his overcoat. His dull, expressionless eyes were fixed on Vronsky's face. Vronsky bowed, and Karenin silently moved his lips, lifted his hand to his hat, and went out. Vronsky saw him get into the carriage without looking round, the the rug and a pair of operaglasses through the carriage window; then he disappeared in the darkness. Vronsky entered the hall. His brows were knit and his eyes shone with a proud, angry light. (Anna Karenina, 1878. P. 350-351)

From narrations above, Karenin as a husband of Anna has a high position than Vrosnky who as a lover of Anna. Vronsky and Anna in a affair frankly. It makes Vrosnky ashamed when met with Karenin. In fact, wife of Karenin is Anna dominantly. Automatically, Vronsky bowed and ashamed.

3.2.4 Scientific Socialism (Class Struggle)

According to Karl Marx the scientific socialism is history of class social. It tells about social differently between low social class and high social class. It means the lower classes try to have a good life and justice because of the oppression of the high class. A struggle for their interest as conducted by them and others. In this novel, the researcher find the some evidences. These are:

They was live unhappy family between Oblonsky and Dolly (his wife) because her husband affair with a French teacher of her children. 'Oh dear, dear, dear!' he groaned recalling what had happened. And the details of his quarrel with his wife, his inextricable position, and, worst of all, his guilt, rose up in his imagination.

'No, she will never forgive me; she can't forgive me! And the worst thing about it is, that it's all my own fault – my own fault; and yet I'm not guilty! That's the tragedy of it!' he thought... (Anna Karenina, 1878. P. 2)

Dolly still can't forgive him. At that time, Oblonsky invites Anna to come to Moscow. To reconcile between Oblonsky and Anna.

'Matthew, my sister Anna Arkadyevna is coming tomorrow,' he said, motioning away for a moment the shiny plump hand of the barber, which was shaving a rosy path between his long curly whiskers. 'The Lord be thanked!' said Matthew, proving by his answer that he knew just as well as his masyter the importance of his visit: namely, that Anna Arkadyevna, Stephen Arkadyevich's favourite sister, might help to reconcile the husband and wife. (Anna Karenina, 1878 .P. 4)

From this case, the low class reflected by Dolly and the high class reflected by Oblonsky. From these narration shows that Oblonsky's affair can be handled by Anna her sister. Finally, Dolly get happiness, and make peace with her husband.

3.5 Discussion

3.5.1 Social Justice in The Characters

The Anna Karenina novel tells about social justice in society. The social justice happened in high class and low class. The egoistic of Anna makes she did not receive justice in her life and society. It is because her affair with Vronsky. But, in other characters Levin receive his justice and peace in his life because he found the true love in Kitty.

From the narrations above, most of the characters did not receive social justice in their life, such as: Anna, Vronsky, and Karenin. Anna has scandal with Vronsky. It causes Vronsky lose his career. Vronsky is aware of his attitude in society. Karenin also found heartbreaking that his wife (Anna) is having an affair with her lover, Vronsky.

We can't deny the destiny of God but we can avoid the bad things that happened for us. Through Marxist perspective, researches try to analyze the social justice in Anna Karenina novel by Tolstoy. Marxist is the ideology of social, economy, and politics of social. All of Marxist tells about history in society. Justice is getting freedom from the oppression and unhappiness. Thus, the social justice is the fair and peace between individual and society.

According to Karl Marx the essence of social justice is if a society has been created the realization of self through compassion, and the collaboration of a classless society, without violence, and without oppression, and humans who are free from all forms of alienation human. So, social justice is a justice that depends on the power structures control groups who suffer from injustice (society is not capable of everything various forms of exploitation and rape), which determine the life of society in dimensions political, economic, social, cultural, legal and ideological. It is appropriate with story of Anna Karenina novel. It tells about class society, between high class and low class in the characters in the novel. The struggle to get a justice in life and happiness. The social justice is part of Marxist. Every principles of Marxist contain of socialism. The works of Marx offer promises and hopes the creation of prosperity and prosperity, peace and security, and problem solving faced by the proletariat, for the sake of creating social justice.

From the findings above we can see that the affair in a relationship can change the opinions about someone in society. Anna has change after she met with Vronsky. She loves Vronsky as her true love. In other hand, her Brother affairs with the teacher French. But, Dolly forgives him because she still loves her child and family. Anna is surrounded with the difficulty and painful. She can't meet with her son Serezha.

After Vronsky divorce Anna, she still can't get a justice in her life. She just live with Vronsky in cohabitation. Vronsky still young, his mother tries to introduce someone for him. Anna is very jealous and she

decided to flopped into the bottom of the train and she was died tragically. The author is represented as a Levin which is one of the characters in the novel. The relationship of Levin and Kitty is a reflection of his relationship with his wife in reality. Levin and Kitty lives with love and peace with their child.

Therefore, the writer is interested in analyzing the social justice in the Anna Karenina novel. This novel is very interesting because in this novel framing the social life in that period in Russia. The tragedy in this novel makes the readers want to know the social justice who experienced by the characters in this novel.

REFERENCE

- Garnet, Constance. *Anna Karenina Leo Tolstoy Translated by Constance Garnet*. http://www.planetpdf.com/planetpdf/pdfs/free_ebooks/Anna_Karenina_NT.pdf . Accessed on July 2017, 11th at 20:55.
- http://www.psych.nyu.edu/jost/Social%20Justice_%20History,%20Theory,%20&%20Research.pdf . Accessed on November, 18th at 08.14.
- Puspitasari, Titra. 2005. Alienation In Leo Tolstoy's Anna Karenina: A Marxist Approach. Skripsi Thesis, Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta.
- Faiz, Mohamad 2009. Teori Keadilan John Rawls (John Rawls' Theory of Justice). Jurnal Konstitusi, Volume 6.
- Rawls, John. 2003. A Theory of Justice (edisi revisi). Cambridge: Belknap Press.
- Stovian, Valentin. 2014. *Property Owning Democracy, Socialism and Justice: Rawlsian and Marxist Perspective on The Content of Social Justice*. Department of Political Science, Central European University.
- Sison, Maria Jose. 2017. *Basic Principles Of Marxist-Leninism (1981-1982): A Primer*. Paper and Monograph, Socialist Theory.
- Chibuikem, N. O. 2017. An Insight into the Notion of Social Justice Following Plato and Rawls. *International Journal of Advances in Philosophy*, 1(2): 25-30.
- https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_Russian_language. Accessed on July, 21st at 22.23.
- <https://alphahistory.com/russianrevolution/russian-industrialisation/>. Accessed on July, 22nd at 23.26.

http://aero-comlab.stanford.edu/jameson/word_history/A_Short_History_of_Russia.pdf. Accessed on July, 22nd at 23.48.

Senn, E Alfred. (1993). *The Russian Revolutionary Movement of The Nineteenth Century as Contemporary History*. Los Angeles: University of California Press.

<http://www.yourarticlelibrary.com/sociology/marxs-ideas-on-dialectical-materialism/43765>. Accessed on August, 19th at 21.31.

<https://www.marxist.org/archive/weisbord/conquest17.htm>. Accessed on August, 19th at 22.57.